

Thao Nguyen: GSG Exec – Academic Affairs Officer

Hi Princeton Graduate Students,

I am a third-year graduate student in the Chemical and Biological Engineering department, and I am running for the Academic Affairs Officer position this year. I am running for this position because I would like to give back to the Princeton Graduate community, Graduate School, and GSG from which I have received tremendous support regarding career direction, community building, as well as research resources.

As the Academic Affairs Officer, I will provide opportunities for every graduate student by increasing the number of informational events and panels this year, specifically tailoring them for different cohorts. Particularly, my vision is to host multiple career service-based info sessions for 4th and 5th year students who are currently looking for a job, internship, or even general career development advice. For the earlier years I intend on organizing and publicizing more core campus events such as Leading with a PhD. In addition to the above, I intend on hosting more events and panels to help students navigate through challenges in graduate school such as how to effectively communicate with advisors and peers, how to balance research and personal development, as well as on how to manage stress during mentally taxing periods such as the General exams and courses. It is also going to be the space for graduate students to interact with one another and feel comfortable to give feedback to the administrative. Doing so, I believe we can further strengthen the Princeton graduate community. Overall, to achieve these aims I will work closely with the Office of Professional Development, Career Services, the McGraw Center, as well as various graduate student clubs, for example the Graduate Consulting Club.

All in all, I believe I can achieve the above for us graduate students, because of my past involvement in the Undergraduate Academic Support Programs during my undergraduate career and my experience as an international student. Specifically, as an international student at Princeton, I have already gained the necessary familiarity and experience with the resources available to both international, and native citizens in regard to academic writing, career resources, and research resources. To this end, I will work with the Davis International Center, the Writing Center, Princeton Writes, as well as the career services to provide further resources that may be needed. Nonetheless, I look forward to representing you all as the Academic Affairs Officer this coming year if elected.

Thank you.